

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-10, 32, 33, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,614,799 to Gummalla et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claims 1-10, 32, 33, 35 and 36 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore their rejection has rendered moot.

Claims 37, 40-44, 46, 48, 49, 50 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,517,501 to Jacquet et al.

Claims 37, 40-44, 46, 48-50, and 52 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore their rejection has rendered moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,614,799 to Gummalla et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,791,996 to Watanabe et al.

Claim 11 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore its rejection has rendered moot.

Claims 12, 14, 15, 17-19, 27, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,517,501 to Jacquet et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 16, which has been indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, amended claim 12 and those depend therefrom are patentably distinguishable from cited reference.

Claim 13, 21, 22, 29, 45, 47, 51 and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,517,501 to Jacquet et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,614,799 to Gummalla et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claims 13, 21, 22, and 29 depend from claim 12 and are patentably distinguishable from cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 12.

Claims 45, 47, 51, and 53 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore their rejection has rendered moot.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,614,799 to Gummalla et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

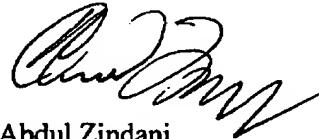
Claim 34 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore its rejection has rendered moot.

Claims 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,517,501 to Jacquet et al

Claims 38-39 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter recited therein. Therefore their rejection has rendered moot.

Applicant believes this application and the claims herein to be in a condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have further inquiry concerning these matters, please contact the below named attorney for Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,



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